

Mr. F. C. Reimer writes from Peking, China. September 26, 1917: "At last, I am in China, arriving here somewhat later than I had first planned. This is due to the fact that the work in Japan and Korea required more time than I had anticipated. For this reason it has been necessary to utilize every hour and to push the work with great vigor in order to get to Peking before it was too late for the early maturing species. As a result, all my correspondence has been neglected.

"In Japan, I visited the northeastern, southern and central regions. In Korea, the central, southwestern, and northeastern sections, and in Manchuria, the central part, were studied. The fruit in central and northern Japan was extremely light this year, which makes the results obtained less satisfactory. The wild pear trees of northern Korea and central Manchuria have practically no fruit this year. In all cases this poor crop is attributed to the remarkable drought last spring.

"I found no pure *Pyrus ussuriensis* in Japan, but other interesting types. I found *P. calleryana* in southern Japan and many trees of it in central and southern Korea. The trees of this species, especially in Korea, are usually mere bushes, owing to the fact that the trees are continually cut off for fuel. As a result, these trees seldom get large enough to bear large quantities of fruit. However, I found some fine, large trees of this species in southern Japan, bearing good crops of fruit. Wherever the trees are permitted to grow to any size in Korea they bear fine crops of fruit.

"*P. ussuriensis* is quite abundant in some places in the mountains of central Manchuria, but very little fruit could be found there. Tomorrow, I start for the Shinglungshan region, northeast of Peking, where I hope to see many trees of *P. ussuriensis*, and I also hope much fruit. This trip will require about two weeks. Mr. Meyer is in central China now, collecting and studying *P. calleryana*. I have not seen him yet, but will go down there later.

"Large areas in eastern China are now flooded and the railroad system south of Peking is demoralized and will be for weeks to come. This is very unfortunate as it will seriously interfere with my work."